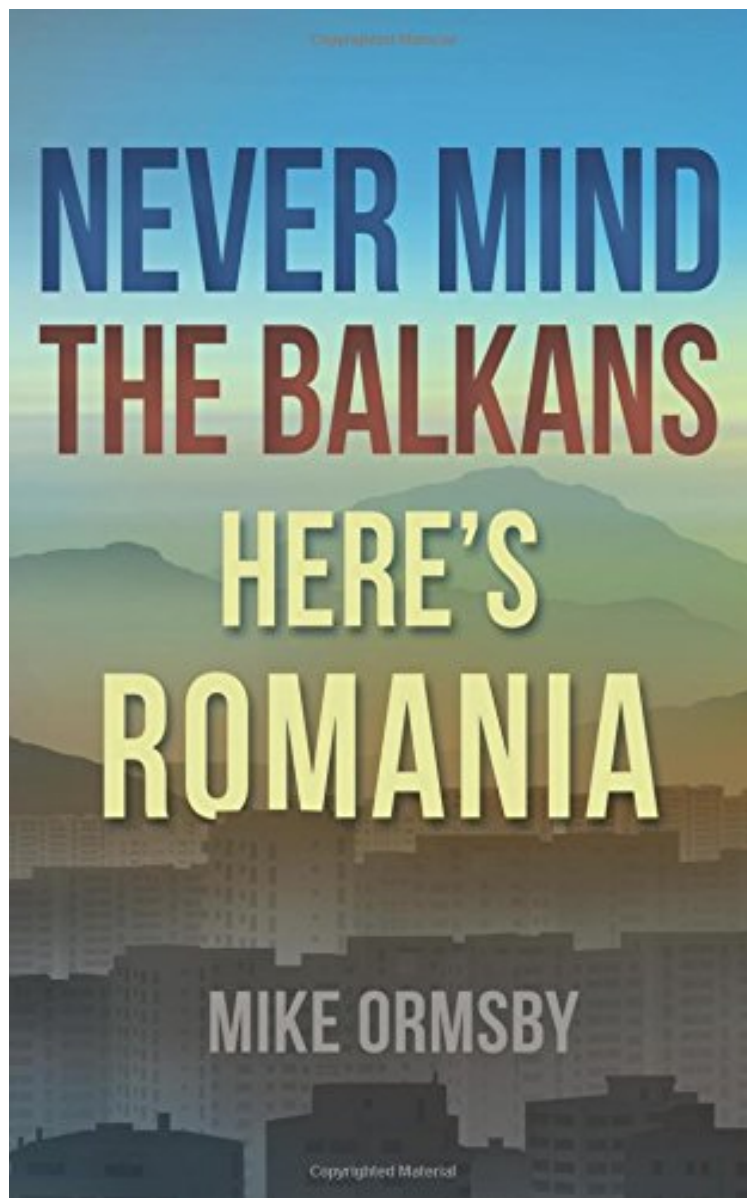


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Never Mind the Balkans, Here's Romania

Mike Ormsby

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Mike Ormsby : Never Mind the Balkans, Here's Romania before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Never Mind the Balkans, Here's Romania:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good ReadBy koaleeBEAR ;o]As a PCV in Moldova for the past 2 years, I felt like I was reading about a parallel experience. It gives me hope for Moldova (especially if they join the

EU) because the few times I've been to Romania, it seems to have improved since the time this book was written.3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. adventures in Romania told by an EnglishmanBy MegAt first I thought I wouldn't like this book - it's a book of very short stories about small events in the author's life. At first the stories annoyed me since they have no ending. I think the main reason I expected not to like it was the ugly cover and dumb title.But the book grew on me. Mike Ormsby is an English journalist who has lived in a number of different countries and has settled in Bucharest. The stories are conversations or adventures he has with Romanian friends or alone. Many of them are sort of bleak, not awful but not upbeat. It's clear that Romania doesn't run very well - politicians are corrupt, laws are not enforced, decisions are made that make little sense. People drink and smoke a lot and are not generally optimistic. I don't know for sure why Mr Ormsby has stayed so long except that he likes the people. But by the middle I felt like I got some insight into Romania and its inhabitants. And that's good enough for me.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An acquired taste methinks...By Mr PoochmanI wanted to like this...I really did. However, I felt that the stories came across as mean-spirited. It may be a cultural or a contextual thing but I didn't warm to the book and wasn't inspired to keep working on liking it.You may think differently...

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